

TGMI Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2011

Committee Members:

Present:

E. Ross White – Chairman
Marilou Cook – Vice Chair
Jon Zirkle – Past Chair
Mehran Mostajir – 2009 Class President
Georganne Martin – 2009 Member at Large
Chris Harris – 2009 Member at Large
April Wright – 2010 Member at Large
Victor Barnes – 2010 Class President
Dr. Tom Kohntopp – via conference call

Excused Absent:

Phyllis Hodges – 2010 Member at Large
Trish Pulley – Ex Officio
Debbie Knox – 2010 Steering Committee Member

Called To Order:

Meeting was called to order by Chairman E. Ross White at 2:04 pm. The meeting was held in the Crockett Tower 12th floor conference room.

Treasurer Report:

Debbie Knox had emailed 2 pages to be presented in her absence. (Attachment 1)
Balance is \$1,063.93. The new banner cost was \$124.20 and was paid by check number 1002.

Old Business:

a. Alumni Officers Meeting

The minutes of this meeting held on March 21, 2011 were added to the March Steering Committee minutes as an attachment and posted to the web.

b. Alumni Involvement

The 2011 class has been selected. April Wright has sent all the new members a welcome to TGMI email. She stated she had received very positive feed back. A few alumni will be going to Knoxville to speak to the new class on May 11. The alumni will be taking a van and will leave from the data center at 7:30 to start the drive to Knoxville. So far, Linda Cone, Chris Harris, Ross White and Jon Zirkle have agreed to go. If you would like to join them, please contact Jon Zirkle. The alumni will discuss election of officers, Steering Committee, and what the alumni can look forward to after graduation such as the fall conference, lunch

conferences, and volunteering in the community. Jon Zirkle will speak to volunteering for projects in the community such as Habitat for Humanity, River Clean up, and others volunteer opportunities.

The alumni cook out for the new class will be June 7, 2011, at Montgomery Bell. Ross White will get with Lauren Hill on coordinating the dinner. The cost of the dinner to the 2011 class members will be paid out of their per diem rates. The alumni will be asked to RSVP prior to the event to make sure enough meals are prepared. The alumni will pay for their own meals. The details on the RSVP for alumni will be discussed at the May meeting.

c. New Banner

The new banner looks great and the check has been sent to the vendor. The Speakers Bureau can use it and it can be used at the fall conference.

d. Adopt A Highway

Chris Harris will follow up on this, since Julie Lamb has left state government.

Committee Reports:

a. Charter Committee

Article III Section 1 currently reads:

“The membership of the TGMI Alumni Network shall be open to all former TGMI participants, i.e., those who have completed the TGMI course sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Human Resources.”

Recommended change:

“The membership of the TGMI Alumni Network shall be open to all former TGMI participants, i.e., those who have completed and graduated from TGMI.”

This change would need to be presented to the alumni for a vote. It was recommended that item of changing the by-laws be placed on the agenda for the Holiday breakfast on December 3, 2011.

b. Communications Committee

All class reporters need to have their reports to April Wright by May 8. The TGMI newsletter will be out by June 15.

c. Community Service Committee

TGMI had five volunteers for the April 2, 2011, Habitat for Humanity day.

There will be a canoe ride to clean up the Harpeth River in the fall.

The committee could use more suggested projects and champions for them from alumni for this year.

d. Events Committee

April 21, 2011 will be a luncheon conference at 44 Vantage Way, 5th Floor, in the large conference room at 11:30 to welcome the new class. John Morgan has been asked to speak but will be unable to attend. Chancellor Morgan is sending Vice-Chancellor David Gregory to speak to the group. The previous class will welcome the new class. Dr. Tom Kohntopp from UT has been invited. All alumni are invited.

The committee is considering having 3 more lunch conferences or ½ day conferences. A lot of this depends on the attendance of alumni and if speakers are available.

Phyllis Hodges needs help with fall conference. It is TGMI's turn to pull this together and set everything up, so any recommendations on topics and speakers would be appreciated. Mehran Mostajir stated he had a great idea for fall conference and he would get with Phyllis Hodges on the speaker and program. A suggestion was made to lock in the date, so as the committee members contact speakers they can tell the speaker the date and what time slots are open for the day and to get the room at the Tennessee Tower reserved. April would ask her co-worker if she would be willing to head the conference. (Note: Since the meeting, Susan Burdette has accepted this position.) The Steering Committee will also work with DOHR to get CPE for this training.

e. Education and Leadership Development Committee

April 15, 2011 – Moore County had asked for speakers. Marilou Cook had to turn this school down because she did not get enough volunteers. She sent out an email to all alumni and no one volunteered.

She has a long list schools that have requested a speaker. (See attachment 2) If you are interested, please contact Marilou Cook.

New Business:

a. Mentor Bureau / Program Discussion

Phase 1 – Recruit and involve the alumni volunteers for the program. The mentor would be assigned members of the new class. The 2007 class is the last class to have mentors. Each class since then has received their information from the previous year's graduated class members in their departments or agencies. The training for mentorship would be provided by UT and DOHR in the future.

b. Class Officer Succession Discussion

Several classes have officers that are no longer with state government and Julie Lamb has resigned from the Steering Committee. Due to these two current instances, the committee is reviewing the by-laws. The By-Laws state in Article VII and sections 5-6:

“If any member of the “immediate past class(es)” or the “most current class(es)” on the Steering Committee is elected to another Steering Committee position, retires or leaves Tennessee State Government prior to the end of their term, their respective class shall elect a replacement person to represent their class on the committee for the remainder of the original term.”

“If any member-at-Large is elected to another Steering Committee position, retires, resigns, or leaves Tennessee State Government prior to the end of their term, the chairperson shall appoint an eligible TGMI member from the Alumni Network on an interim basis to fill the position vacated for the remainder of the original term. The Steering committee, by majority vote, must ratify the Chairperson’s selection. The Vice-Chairperson shall be responsible for taking the vote count for each Steering Committee member through a meeting, conference call, or electronic mail.”

Mike Travis will be asked to attend the next Steering Committee meeting to address these two by-laws and how to proceed to fill the positions that are now vacant and to see if an investigation is needed into a procedure for class officer replacement.

Reading Recommendations:

Current month’s recommended readings are:

Hesselbein, F., Goldsmith, M., & Sommerville, I. (Eds.). (1999). Leading beyond the walls. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass. ISBN: 0-7879-4593-5.

Previous recommended readings are:

Gladwell, M. (2002). The tipping point: How little things can make a big difference. New York: Little, Brown, & Company. ISBN 0-316-34662-4.

Agenda and Discussion: How State Government Executive and middle Managers and Administrative Policy by OLSHFSKI

The Feiner Points of Leadership by Michael Feiner

The Oz Principle: Getting Results through Individual and Organizational Accountability

Roger Connors, Tom Smith, and Craig Hickman

Relationships 101: What Every Leader Needs to Know

John C. Maxwell

Strength Based Leadership by Rath and Conchie

This Ain't No Practice Life by Michael Burt

Good to Great by Jim Collins

Leadership Gold by John Maxwell

On Becoming a Great Leader (2003 Edition) by W. Bennis

Meeting adjourned at 3:53.

Regards,

Georganne Martin